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May 08, 1986  
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Mr. & Mrs Donald Hickey  
4416 Wilmoth Avenue  
Louisville, KY 40216

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Hickey:

This letter is in response to your letter dated 11/4/85 which stated concerns related to the Lees Lane Landfill.

Comment: "EPA tested for chemicals in these homes, they failed to test for methane. We would like to know why this happened. If we are sitting on top of methane, then our homes ought to be tested for it."

EPA's Response: The combustible gas unit will be utilized in the future air investigations. In the January '86 air sampling investigation homes were tested for methane using the combustible gas unit. Methane was not detected in any of the homes.

I should also emphasize that methane is an asphyxiant gas; not one of the hazardous substances that are addressed by EPA. Therefore, EPA has focused primarily on the toxic gases that may be mixed with the methane gas.

Comment: "On top of all this, Borden Chemical Plant is about 200 ft. from some families. Almost every day the air smells badly from chemicals. We would like to know how dangerous this is to our health, but no one will answer our questions not even EPA."

EPA's Response: EPA is currently conducting an air investigation to determine if there is an ambient air problem and if it is related to the gases being emitted from the Lees Lane Landfill.

After all the data is collected and evaluated EPA will be better able to address these health concerns.

Presently, the Agency is in the process of preparing a Responsiveness Summary. This document serves two purposes; (1) to aid EPA in reaching

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a decision about the most cost effective remedial alternative at the site and (2) to address citizen concerns and EPA's response to those concerns. Upon completion of the Responsiveness Summary, it will be placed in the information repository.

If you have any questions, please call me at (404) 347-2643.

Sincerely yours,

Beverly E. Houston  
Remedial Project Manager  
Emergency and Remedial  
Response Branch